YMCA

NEWS

FROM THE MONTREAL YMCA

1441 DRUMMOND ST., MONTREAL
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December 5th, 1966.

ILE PERROT DAY CAMP TO HOUSE EXPO VISITORS

On November 8th, work was officially started on facilities which will enable the 'Y' day camp at Ile Perrot to accommodate a total of 120,000 visitors during Expo '67.

Charles Morrison, Chairman of the Montreal YMCA Expo-Centennial Committee, turned the first sod. He did so unhurriedly, on schedule, despite intermittent rain which increased to a heavy downpour just minutes before he started.

The development involves 90 trailer sites, 100 camp sites, an outdoor swimming pool and sanitary facilities, changing and electrical power sources.

After the World's Fair ends, the new facilities will enable the Montreal 'Y' to expand its summer program at Ile Perrot. Ultimate objective is to establish a year-round leadership training centre at that site.

Among the many others who disregarded the weather to participate in the ceremony were two members of Quebec's Legislative Assembly; Paul Gerin-Lajoie, former Minister of Education, and A. Séguin, who is still Mayor of Pointe Claire.

RENOVATION OF DOWNTOWN 'Y' RESIDENCE CONTINUES

The Building Committee has approved plans to renovate entirely the ninth floor of the Stanley Street Residence. This floor, with its 44 rooms, will be the fifth of the 10 floors in the building to be completely modernized. Together, the rooms in this building and those on the sixth floor of the Drummond Street Residence can accommodate a total of 504 persons.

OUT OF BRANCH LANGUAGE PROGRAM POPULAR

Ward Minielly, Adult Education Director at the International Branch, estimates its out-of-branch language program has to date helped some 320 persons learn or perfect their command of either English or French.

Under this program, which was launched in 1964, classes are conducted for participating companies on their own premises.

First to take advantage of these courses was Dominion Rubber (now Uniroyal), which was followed in quick succession by Sherbrooke Paper Products, Dominion Textiles, Steinberg's and CPR.

Newest participant is La Societé des Artisans Coopérative d'Assurance de Vie, which has enrolled 32 employees in an English course and will sign up another 30 for a similar course to be started in February.

CATHOLIC LEADER PRAISES YMCA

Father Irénée Beaubien has declared himself one of the growing number of religious and community leaders who feel the YMCA can contribute significantly to the lowering of barriers between people of various beliefs and cultures.

"Here the YMCA has a definite role to play", said Father Beaubien, who is Director of the Montreal Ecumenical Centre and a member of the Board of the National Secretariat on Ecumenism.

Father Beaubien also said he considers the YMCA as one of the leading world Associations dedicated to serving the spiritual, intellectual and physical needs of people, especially youth.

"The time has come for the 'Y' and similarly-motivated Roman Catholic Associations to enter into dialogue, and see what can be done, cooperatively, to better serve the needs of the community", he suggested.

FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY

Freedom and its accompanying responsibilities will be the theme of a conference being planned by teen-age members, adult leaders and Board and Committee members of Lachine-Dorval Branch.

The stage was set for such a conference by the creation of a "Y-Not" coffee house in the Branch's teen lounge. Purpose of this coffee house is to give young people an opportunity to develop and administer the type of program they desire in an atmosphere conducive to the sharing of ideas, concerns and aspirations.

Plans are to hold the conference out of town, over a weekend.

COMMUNITY STUDY APPROVED

Lakeshore Branch and the Applied Social Science Department of Sir George Williams University will head a study involving all community organizations in the City of Beaconsfield, which approved a $2,500. grant for this purpose.

Objectives of the study are:

To determine how the various community groups can cooperate more fully to solve the unmet needs that are identified.

To identify what types of facilities are needed now, and will be required in the future.

To find ways to promote better understanding and lines of communication between adults and young people.

WHAT'S NEW

Please send information about stories you would like to see in this newsletter to Mr. William Sher, Editorial Communications Canada Limited, 2065 Sun Life Building, Montreal. Telephone 861-9274.

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